

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

PIKES OPERA HOUSE, corner of Eighth avenue and
25th street.—LES BAYARDS—BARRE BLEUE.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—HUMPTY DUMPTY.
WITH NEW FEATURES.BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—THE EMERALD
RING.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 12th street.—
CAPTAIN OF THE VAGABOND—WOODHOLM'S LITTLE GEM.NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—AFTER DARK; OR, LON-
DON BY NIGHT.BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—MISS FANNY HEERING
AS LYDIA, THE JEWESS, &c.FRENCH THEATRE, Fourteenth street and Sixth ave-
nue.—GENEVIEVE DE BRABANT.NEW YORK THEATRE, Broadway.—THE BURGLES
OF BARRE BLEUE.MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.—
DANON AND FIDELIO—MICHAEL ENLE.WOODS MUSEUM AND THEATRE, Thirtieth street and
Broadway.—Afternoon and evening performance.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Tammany Building, 14th
street.—EUROPEAN MINSTRELS, &c.KELLY & LEON'S MINSTRELS, 720 Broadway.—ETHIO-
PIAN MINSTRELS, BURGLES—BARRE BLEUE.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 255 Broadway.—ETHIO-
PIAN ENTERTAINERS, SINGING, DANCING, &c.TOKY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE 201 Bowery.—COMIC
VOCALISTS, NEGRO MINSTRELS, &c.NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—EQUESTRIAN
AND GYMNASTIC ENTERTAINMENT.CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.—THEO. THOMAS' GRAND
PROMENADE CONCERT.STREIWAY HALL, Fourteenth street.—MR. DE CON-
DOYAN HUMOROUS LECTURE.BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—MR. SCOTT-SIN-
GERS IN MUCH AND ABOUT NOTHING, &c.HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—HOOLEY'S
MINSTRELS & A DUTCHMAN IN JAPAN, &c.HOOLEY'S (E. D.) OPERA HOUSE, Williamsburg.—
HOOLEY'S MINSTRELS—THE LANTERN LANE, &c.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 615 Broadway.—
SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Friday, December 18, 1868.

THE NEWS.

Europe.

The cable telegrams are dated December 17.

A dispatch from Constantinople states that the
sultan's ultimatum has been rejected by the Greek
government. All Greeks have been ordered to leave
Turkey. A naval engagement is reported to have
taken place between a Grecian war steamer and a
Turkish cruiser. The former vessel is now block-
aded in the harbor of Smyrna.

Everything is tranquil in Spain.

John Bright is announced as President of the
Board of Trade and Mr. Layard has been appointed
Commissioner of Public Works.

The London press criticizes very freely Mr. John-
son's announcement that the Alabama negotiations
are closed.

The Paraguayan War.

By Atlantic cable we have intelligence that General
Caxias was about attacking Lopez in his stronghold
at Villeta. Minister McMahon and the American
squadron had passed up the Paraguay river.

We have letters from Buenos Ayres to the 27th of
October and Rio Janeiro to the 7th of November.
An expedition to flank Lopez' position at Villeta
had found troops and fortifications to resist them.
Caxias' army was encamped in a swamp. Mr.
Gould, the British Minister, had returned from Para-
guay and is on his way to England with dispatches.
It is understood that Lopez would not surrender his
English prisoners. General Caxias denies that he
engaged in stirring up insurrections against
Lopez. The fleet, with Minister McMahon on board,
had not yet arrived at Asuncion.

Brazil.

The Princess Imperial of Brazil is said to be
afflicted with a dreadful species of Asiatic leprosy.
She is daily expected at Rio Janeiro from the springs
of Minas Geraes. A great drought is prevailing in
Bahia. Rivers and ponds had dried up and a famine
was imminent.

Buenos Ayres.

President Sarmiento was commencing his ad-
ministration in a way that satisfied all patriotic citi-
zens. Congress adjourned on October 24. The
threatened civil war in Corrientes had been arranged
peaceably.

Cuba.

The leading Spanish journal in Havana claims that
sore destitution prevails in the Eastern Department,
owing to the ravages of the insurgents. The volun-
teers demand to be led immediately against them,
and declare that they are only common robbers. The
steam transports from Spain have arrived with
troops. The American Consulate at Cardenas, with
the books and papers of the office, had been de-
stroyed by fire.

Hayti.

By the Cuba cable we have news from Port au
Prince to the 5th inst. The capture of Miragoane is
confirmed. The blockade at Gonaves is acknowl-
edged to be effective by the foreign representatives.

Congress.

In the Senate yesterday Mr. McCree presented
resolutions to amend the constitution so as to pro-
tect the rights of minorities and to avoid bringing
the election of President into the House of Represen-
tatives. The resolutions were referred to the
Judiciary Committee. The House bill re-
lieving political disabilities from certain per-
sons in South Carolina was passed. Mr.
Sumner's resolution expressing sympathy with
Spain occasioned some debate, and before a
vote could be taken upon it the morning hour ex-
pired and the resolution disapproving the Presi-
dent's financial recommendation were taken up.
After considerable debate the resolutions, as re-
ported from the Finance Committee, were adopted
by a vote of 42 to 6. After some further business
the Senate adjourned.

In the House the day was devoted to eulogiums
upon the late Thaddeus Stevens. Mr. Dickey, his
successor, made the first speech and was followed
by Messrs. Orth, Broomall, Kelly, Fernando Wood
and numerous others.

Miscellaneous.

In the Lower House of the Arkansas Legislature on
Tuesday, Governor Clayton's proclamation, declar-
ing martial law in Conway county, was adopted. A
message was received from the Governor stating
that the militia in the southwest counties can be
dispensed with, as arrangements have been made for
federal troops to occupy that section of the State.
A fight occurred on Tuesday at Augusta between
citizens and militia, in which four of the latter were
killed. General Upham, commanding the militia at
Augusta, being besieged by a party of citizens, had
undermined the prison and threatened to blow it up
if he was attacked.

In the Alaska purchase investigation at Washing-
ton yesterday Robert J. Walker was examined. He
said that he received \$26,000 from the Russian Min-
ister for popularizing the purchase of Alaska by his
town and pen; of this he gave \$5,000 to F. B. Stan-
ton for services rendered, and at his suggestion the
editor of the Washington Chronicle was offered
\$4,000, which he declined in favor of his brother.

The National Land Association have sold 30,000
acres of the Kansas Pacific Railroad Company's
land to a colony of Swedes from Northern Illinois,
and two hundred families will occupy the new pur-
chase in the spring. The same company have sold
to actual settlers, within ninety days, 60,000 acres of
the Kansas Pacific Railroad Company's lands.

It is reported in Cincinnati that the Erie Railroad
managers are trying to buy the Cincinnati, Hamil-
ton and Dayton Railroad.

The Peruvian iron-clads at New Orleans will be

detained probably two weeks longer in order to get
a new crew, the Peruvian Minister having discharged
the former crew in obedience to a writ of habeas
corpus from Judge Durell.

General Grant is to be in Cincinnati to-day. He is
returning to Washington from his Chicago trip.

Peter Phillips was to have been hanged to-day in
Richmond, Va., for wife murder. Judge Underwood
had issued a writ of habeas corpus in his case, re-
turnable on February 15; but the Sheriff had deter-
mined to disregard the writ and hang Phillips. The
gallows are already in course of erection, but Gov-
ernor Wells has rescripted him until the time the writ
is returnable.

A prize fight between Bussy and McAlpine oc-
curred near the Indiana and Illinois State line yester-
day. McAlpine was down seventy-four times out of
the seventy-five rounds, being so badly whipped
that he had to be held up; but on the last round
Bussy struck him a foul blow and lost the fight. An
account of the prize fight in Iowa between Toohy
and Bernard will be found on our triple sheet.

Dennis Reen, who is charged with having guil-
lotined Cronin at a factory in Charlestown, Mass., was
up for examination in the Charlestown Court yester-
day. He appeared to be very much excited during
the trial, denying his guilt with frightful expletives.
Dixon, one of the witnesses, fainting while he was
handling the cleaver with which the murder was
committed.

Mr. Menard, the colored Representative from
Louisiana, received his certificate of election from
Governor Warmoth yesterday.

In the Hill murder case at Philadelphia yesterday
the accused parties were both arraigned, but the
whole day was consumed in empanelling a jury.

Three highwaymen robbed a clerk of the Pacific
Railroad office at Omaha of \$9,000 on Wednesday
night. They put pistols to his head while he was
walking along the street, walked him out on the
plains and robbed him.

The City.

The National Manufacturers' Association held a
secret meeting at the Metropolitan Hotel on Wednes-
day, when resolutions and an address favoring the
postponement of specie payments, the national
banking system, Mr. Jenckes' Civil Service bill and
other matters were adopted.

In the "After Dark" litigation Judge Blatchford
yesterday rendered a decision restraining Messrs.
Palmer & Jarrett from representing the railroad
case in their play.

In the Belmont branch of the Erie litigation yester-
day a new affidavit on the part of Belmont, to
show that the suit was commenced in good faith,
was read. Mr. Vanderpool and Mr. Rapallo argued
the case, after which it was adjourned till this
morning.

The Inman line steamship City of Paris, Captain
Kennedy, will sail from pier No. 45 North river at ten
A. M. to-morrow (Saturday) for Queenstown and Liver-
pool. The mails for Europe will close at the Post
Office at twelve M. on the 19th inst.

The National line steamship Pennsylvania, Captain
Hall, will leave pier No. 47 North river at nine A. M.
to-morrow (Saturday) for Liverpool, calling at
Queenstown to land passengers.

The steamship Britannia, Captain Donaldson, of the
Anchor line, will sail at twelve M. on Saturday
for London, calling at Queenstown to land passengers.
The Anchor line will also sail for Glasgow, touching
at Londonderry to land passengers, &c.

The Merchants' line steamship Crescent City, Cap-
tain Weil, will be despatched at three P. M. to-mor-
row (Saturday) from pier No. 12 North river for New
Orleans direct.

The steamship De Soto, Captain Eaton, will leave
pier No. 36 North river at three P. M. to-morrow for
New Orleans direct.

The steamship Enterprise, Captain Gates, of C. H.
Mallory & Co.'s line, will leave pier No. 20 East river
on Saturday for Galveston, Texas.

The Black Star line steamship Montgomery, Cap-
tain Lyon, will sail from pier No. 13 North river for
Savannah, Ga., at three P. M. on Saturday.

Prominent Arrivals in the City.

Ex-Governor Wm. Dennison, of Ohio; E. P. Ross,
of Auburn; James M. Scovel, of Camden, and ex-
Mayor Daniel Saunders, Jr., of Lawrence, Mass., are
at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Colonel H. Olmstead (Oregon) and A. A. Woodhull,
of the United States army; Lieutenant Commander
Charles H. Tracey, of the United States navy; Colonel
E. B. Allen, of Kansas, and Judge F. S. Laffin, of
Savannah, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Surgeon Davis and Captain Ferris, of the United
States navy, are at the St. Julien Hotel.

Mr. Rascoff, Danish Minister of War, and Mr. A.
Bille, of the Danish Legation, are at the Brevoort
House.

Colonel Pryor, of West Point, and Otis Tufts, of
Boston, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Ex-Senator Stark, of Connecticut, is at the Hof-
man House.

Prominent Departures.

Governor R. E. Fenton, of Albany, arrived in this
city on Wednesday evening and left for Albany
yesterday morning.

Senator Morton on the Resumption of
Specie Payments.

It was known that Senator Morton, of Indiana,
intended to bring forward at an early
day his bill for the resumption of specie pay-
ments. On Wednesday he introduced it in
the Senate with a carefully prepared and
lengthy speech, and then had it referred to
the Committee on Finance. The speech is one
of the ablest that have been delivered in
the Senate on the subject of the currency and
national finances since the war. The Senator
contemplates by his bill to fix the time for
resumption, and states that to be on the 1st
of July, 1871. He argues that fixing the time
must be the starting point of any plan which
proposes to bring about resumption without
crash and disaster, and he thinks that two
years and a half is long enough for the ac-
complishment of that object. His plan is to
accumulate gold in the Treasury by stopping
all sales of it by the Secretary, so as to enable
the government at the time stated to redeem
the greenback currency with specie. He
says by stopping the sales of gold there
will be accumulated in the vaults of
the Treasury at the end of two
years, over and above the sums required
to pay the interest on the public debt, a hun-
dred and seventy millions of specie, and that
this will be sufficient to enable the govern-
ment to redeem all the greenbacks in coin that
would be presented for redemption; for he
maintains that as soon as it should be known
these notes are redeemable in specie, and
therefore at par with it, a large amount would
be kept in circulation, as being a more con-
venient currency than gold. He would, how-
ever, extend the time for resumption six
months longer—that is, to January, 1872—to
the national banks, but compelling the banks to
hold in their vaults the same amount of green-
back reserves as now to redeem their notes.
This, he holds, would make the process of
resumption gradual and prevent a rush upon
the Treasury or the banks. Such is, in brief,
his plan for resuming specie payments.

This is undoubtedly the most feasible plan
of any yet submitted to Congress by the
resumptionists. But the question arises here,
is it practicable? Can we resume specie pay-
ments within so short a time or within any
stated time by legislative enactment without
producing a crisis? If we look to the teach-
ings of history—particularly to the history
of England in the efforts made there to
force specie payments from 1815, when peace
was restored, to 1824—we shall understand the
difficulties and danger of forced resumption.
It took England over eight years after war was
ended to reach specie payments, and yet the

action of the government to that end produced
terrible financial revolutions. Can we expect
to force resumption within a shorter time by
government action without disaster? Admit
that we have vast and rapidly increasing
resources, still we have not the capitalized
wealth England had nor the means of con-
trolling the specie of the world. To say
the least, forced resumption in this country
would be a dangerous experiment, and in all
probability would cause general bankruptcy,
a suspension of trade and universal suffering.
But why force specie payments at all? Is not
the country prosperous? Are not our farmers
and people generally acquiring wealth faster
than they ever did before? Are not all the
material interests of the country being won-
derfully developed under the influence of an ample
paper currency? The talk about trade and
business being bad and the people suffering is
a bugbear of the resumption theorists, and has
no foundation in fact, as every mechanic,
tradesman, farmer or the government revenue
can show. Nor is there any danger in the
future. We shall go on in the same prosper-
ous career if Congress will let the currency
alone. With the growth of the country and
the yearly increasing demand for currency we
shall gradually grow up to specie payments
without a revolution or shock to trade.

Senator Morton, however, professes to be
opposed to contraction, and pictures the evils of
it. He reasons that there would be no con-
traction under the operation of his bill, and
that specie would take the place of greenbacks.
That is all very nice in theory; but if the
precious metals should be drained away from
the country, as they are now, to pay the in-
terest on our securities abroad and the balance
of trade against us, we should soon find our-
selves with a contracted currency and business
paralyzed. We should be at the mercy of the
foreign bondholders and capitalists, and when-
ever they chose to call upon us or the Bank of
England to put on the screws the country
would be convulsed from one end to the other.
They could drain thirty or fifty millions of
gold from us at any time, make money scarce
and throw our business men into bankruptcy.
First, then, can we safely accumulate gold
enough in the Treasury to redeem the legal
tenders without injuring trade and sending the
premium up much higher than it is? We
think not. Then the loss on such a vast un-
employed sum would amount to many millions,
which might be applied to the reduction
of the interest-bearing debt. Suppose,
however, that it could be accumu-
lated, how long after being set free
would it remain in the country under the
demand abroad for the interest on our debt
and the enormous balance of trade against us? Re-
sumption of specie payments would not lessen
the debt held abroad—would rather increase
it—and would hardly reduce our extravagant
importations when costing less. If we import
so largely now, when the difference between
currency and gold makes the price of articles
so high, what should we do when the price
would be greatly reduced? By forcing specie
payments we shall, as said before, be at the
mercy of foreigners. Then in a crisis there
would be a demand for more paper circulation,
and, the legal tenders being out of the way,
more national bank currency would be author-
ized. These monstrous monopolies, the bank-
ing associations, which now make a profit out
of the public of fifteen per cent on their cap-
ital, would thus be enabled to largely increase
their profits on an extended national circula-
tion. This, we apprehend, would be the re-
sult of Senator Morton's resumption bill.
Under the present circumstances of the coun-
try the legal tender currency is best, and it
would be better still if we had but that uniform
circulation. At all events, Congress should
let the currency alone and not attempt to force
specie payments. Let the laws of trade and
the growth of the country regulate all that.
Let well alone should be the motto of our
public men.

American Sentiment in Spain.

A very remarkable feature in the popular in-
surrections in Spain is the prevalence of good
feeling towards the United States. It appears
that in the midst of the tumult in Cadix cries
rang out in favor of America, showing the ten-
dency of the public mind among the masses
towards institutions similar to ours. Then we
learn that the United States Consul in Cadix
did much to stop the bloodshed by mounting
the barricade, wearing his consular uniform,
and displaying the American flag between the
insurgents and the government troops. The
effect, we are told, was a stay of hostilities,
thus making the Stars and Stripes act as a flag
of truce. This is not the only instance in
which the influence of the United States is em-
phatically stamped upon the public sentiment
of Europe. Mr. Motley, in his address to the
Historical Society, which we published in full
in the HERALD yesterday, dwells upon this
fact very pointedly as having come within his
European experience.

It is not surprising that the Spanish popu-
lace should echo the cry of "Free America,"
because it was to our example in breaking the
links which bound this country to England
that the freedom of the Spanish American
States is due. Following us, they also severed
their connection with the mother country, and
thus it is natural that every sentiment of free-
dom in the Spanish race should be allied with
America.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson's Explanation.

Reverdy Johnson, according to the cable,
"ascribes the attacks upon him in the Ameri-
can newspapers and elsewhere to a secret dis-
like for the preservation of peaceful relations
between the two countries." There are two or
three points here worthy passing notice. Mr.
Johnson is quite right in saying that there is a
dislike here to the "preservation of peaceful
relations between the two countries;" quite
right in the implication that we would a little
rather fight England than not; and we are glad
that he has said this, for this is just what we
want England to know. Now let him go on
and tell the reason, and show his English hosts
that this feeling grows from the national con-
viction that England has treated us shabbily in
the Alabama business. Then he will have ful-
filled the object of his mission. But if the
above is true, Mr. Johnson, of all men, should
have been the last to say so; for it is an acknowl-
edgment that he has not properly represented
us at all in his amiable palaver. Let this too
amiable Minister of a disgusted people come
home.

The High Tariff and Treasury Rings.

Our Washington despatches recently made
some interesting disclosures concerning one
of the Treasury ring's auxiliary forces,
and we give in another column the cir-
cular and petition therein mentioned,
which on their face seem to be in the
interest of every needful reform, but really
are designed to gather and husband up politi-
cal influence and power to control Congress
during President Grant's administration, or,
in other words, to use the cloak of legitimate
reform to cover up and defend the long stand-
ing abuses and wrongs upon the taxpayers
perpetrated by that clique of commission
brokers known as the Treasury ring. The offi-
cers of the great national reform and high
tariff league or association ostensibly advo-
cate in their circular a new tax bill, aiming to
simplify and improve our internal revenue sys-
tem, Mr. Jenckes' Civil Service bill, a great
reduction of the army and navy, a large reduc-
tion of the clerical force in the departments at
Washington, the transfer of the Indian Bureau
from the Interior to the War Department, the
abolition of the Indian treaty system, a new
naturalization law, a reduction of the number
of United States judicial districts, a law retiring
superannuated and decrepit judges, the adop-
tion of measures by Congress "to turn the
balance of trade in our favor," and last, but not
least, "legislation that will encourage our
home industry"—which means, interpreted by
the constant utterances of their newspaper
organs, a higher tariff. Though apparently
advocating every really needful reform, in ad-
dition to their chronic demand for a higher
tariff, the omission of any mention of Treas-
ury ring operations in this universal reform
association circular is remarkably significant,
and, when taken together with certain facts,
clearly shows that the real animus of the as-
sociation managers is quite different from any-
thing that appears on the face of their man-
ifestoes, excepting their demand for a higher
tariff. In that they are unquestionably sincere.
Though attacking every minor abuse, not one
word have they to say in condemnation of the
legalized atrocities of the Treasury ring, in
comparison to which all other abuses sink into
absolute insignificance. During the long four
years just past our Secretary of the Treasury
has been constantly engaged in secretly ma-
nipulating our national debt of two thousand
five hundred million dollars, together with the
contents of the national Treasury, to bull and
bear alternately the entire industrial inter-
ests of the nation, benefitting meanwhile only
a small clique of commission brokers, work-
ing his great financial crushing machine as
though the people were natural enemies en-
titled to no consideration whatever; at one
time placing thirty or forty million dollars of
bonds secretly upon the market to make money
scarce, and at another purchasing secretly a
similar or larger amount to make it plenty;
secretly selling two hundred million dollars in
gold and buying many times that amount of
bonds in such a way that the business com-
munity could make no calculation for the future.
For years past no business man has been able to
see a week beforehand whether loss or gain
would be the result of any transaction what-
ever. No one but the Secretary of the Treas-
ury and his little coterie of commission
brokers has been able to penetrate the pro-
found secrets of the department.

The Erie Railroad and Wall street ring justly
received universal execration on account of the
great lock-up or bear movement of last month;
but the Secretary of the Treasury has, by
authority of Congress, for years past been en-
gaged in precisely the same sort of business,
and of such magnitude that the Erie operation
sinks into absolute insignificance when com-
pared with it. Where the Erie combination
used ten million dollars to bull or bear the
market Secretary McCulloch used five hun-
dred million dollars on government account
for the same purpose, he having been en-
abled to make secret sales and purchases
of bonds alternately, through commission
brokers, amounting to hundreds upon hundreds
of millions of dollars. The loss to the business
interests of the country—the needless loss—by
these abrupt and frequent fluctuations of values
has been greater by far than our entire
national debt. This secrecy, taking every
business enterprise of the country at a disad-
vantage, is the great wrong of the system.
One of its minor abuses is the payment by the
Secretary of the Treasury of over seven
million dollars commissions to ring brokers on
these secret sales and purchases of gold and
bonds, besides giving them an opportunity to
make some twenty million dollars additional
profit on the operation. If these favorite
brokers must be pensioned to this extent
from the taxpayers' treasury it would be
far better for Congress to appropriate say
five million dollars per annum for the
purpose, and then oblige the Secretary of
the Treasury to return to the old method in
vogue previous to the rebellion of advertising
all loans, that the people may know what to
depend upon, that some degree of steadiness
and regularity in business affairs may again
prevail. Previous to the rebellion no Secre-
tary of the Treasury would have dared to bull
and bear the market by alternate secret sales
and purchases of bonds on government account
through outside commission brokers as Secre-
tary McCulloch has been doing ever since he
has been in office.

The HERALD has time and again called the
public attention to the fact that over twenty-seven
millions of dollars of the people's money had
been deposited in a few favored national
banks to remain without interest month after
month; and to the fact that while those in-
stitutions were enjoying a subsidy of three hun-
dred millions of dollars from Congress a por-
tion of them have been engaged in the great
Wall street lock-up and other kindred opera-
tions.

Not one word have the great national re-
form and high tariff association managers to
offer in condemnation of these abuses. On the
contrary, they are hand and glove with the
Treasury ring brokers. Their lobby schemes
are for the most part manipulated by the same
agents. At a tariff ring's convention one of
their resolutions adopted declares "that the
safe and beneficial action of the national bank-
ing system has proved it superior to any
other," and "that it may be considered the
crowning financial result of the great changes
wrought by the war."

All the tariff ring organs support the Treas-
ury ring. Indeed, one of their editors claims,

as a matter of pride, to be the author of the
national banking system. In regard to the
ring's repeatedly expressed desire and deter-
mination to have a higher tariff we apprehend
the tax-burdened people will have something
to say. There is now assessed and collected
on imported goods an ad valorem tax varying
from fifty-two to three hundred and twelve per
cent. If the managers and lobbyists of the
combined high tariff and Treasury rings think
the people will stand higher taxes than these
they will certainly find themselves mistaken.

Newspaper Telegraphic Enterprise.

There can be no better evidence of the effect
which newspaper enterprise has had upon the
progress of the telegraph system than the re-
cent successful efforts of the HERALD to lay
before the public, through the medium of spe-
cial despatches, all the leading events trans-
piring in Europe. From day to day every-
thing of importance occurring in the Old
World is faithfully recorded in our columns
each morning, diligently despatched by our
European correspondents over the Atlantic
cable. Thus we find in the columns of many
leading provincial papers in one day half a
dozen items of important foreign news credited
to the "Special despatches of the New York
HERALD." A "HERALD special" from Madrid
reports the surrender of the insurgents at
Cadiz. Another "special" from Vienna tells
of the ultimatum offered by Turkey to Greece;
another "special" from Havana gives the
latest phase of the Cuban insurrection. We
quote these from a single column of a New
York newspaper, all of which important items
of news are frankly credited to the special
cable despatches of the HERALD. And this is
not the half of them.

The telegraph, as at present conducted, is
peculiar. In the first place it is in the hands
of monopolies, which pile up the prices beyond
the capacity of the general public to bear,
whereas it ought to be a cheap medium for the
communication of thought and intelligence be-
tween the people. Its influence is certainly to
accelerate all the actions of life in the entire
community. Again, it has been always the
custom, wherever it is advantageous for one
line to be run at cheap rates where there is
opposition in the field, to put up the tariff on
other branches in order to make up the defi-
ciency. In many of these cases, as with rail-
road and steamboat lines also, running in
opposition, one of the opposition lines is beaten
out of the field, the prices go up and the
public are the sufferers. Now, it is evident
that as one of the leading elements of civiliza-
tion the use of the telegraph should be ex-
tended as much as possible to all classes, and
at a rate within the reach of all. At present
prices it is only at the command of capitalists,
to whom it furnishes in many instances undue
advantages at the expense of the general
dealer, who cannot afford to command the
tariff demanded by the telegraphic monopoly.

Wherever government control of the tele-
graph assimilates to the management of the
postal system, or the money order system, it
is quite as successful as these two plans of
communication. Under the government the
cost of building a line would be economized,
because we know that all chartered companies
are extravagant in their outlay, trusting to the
public to repay them, and taking very
good care that it does repay them.
But the prices required to pay for the extrava-
gance have to be drawn from the people, and
hence, in a great measure, the uses of the tele-
graph are confined to speculators, bankers,
brokers and ambitious capitalists, instead of
being a popular institution, as free and almost
as cheap as the Post Office.

The telegraph can only become thus avail-
able by the government assuming control of it,
as the British government has wisely done.
To further this end the chambers of com-
merce and the boards of trade throughout the
country should move in the matter and peti-
tion Congress to establish a telegraph depart-
ment of the government on the same principle
as the Post Office Department.

Mr. Motley on Human Progress.

The address delivered before the New York
Historical Society on Wednesday evening last
by the Hon. J. Lothrop Motley was, we dare
say, the most comprehensive, brilliant, elo-
quent, compact and instructive discourse on
"human progress" that can be found in the
records of any historical society in existence.
His general argument that, through all the
vicissitudes of the human family, even when
most disastrous and depressing, the cause of
human progress has never been arrested,
though baffled and delayed, is a conclusive
grouping of great historical facts and events,
the landmarks of history, from the east to the
west, which lead us from the dim twilight of
tradition into the full blaze of the nineteenth
century. From the same line of landmarks he
shows as conclusively that the law of human
progress is from petty independencies and
incongruous confederations to great national-
ities, and from the so-called divine rights of
kings and oligarchies to the paramount rights
of the people. Coming down to our own
epoch, his estimate of the grand impulses in
both hemispheres given to human progress
from the triumph of the Union in our late civil
war is that of an enthusiast who is also a
historian and a philosopher, whose demon-
strations take the place of prophecy.

"Here," says Mr. Motley, "are the chief
events thus far recorded in human progress,
as time, in its deliberate patience, was one
day to prove—speech, the alphabet, Mount
Sinai, Egypt, Greece, Rome, Nazareth, the
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